Bible Study Notes: Song of Solomon 3

♦ Memories of Engagement ♦

SUMMARY

In verses 1-5, the Shulammite girl has a dream that indicates her intense affection and anxiety over Solomon and the royal city. She has dreamed that she cannot find him anywhere. She goes throughout the city streets looking and asking the watchmen about his location. She finally finds him, holds him, and refuses to let go. The scene ends with Solomon and the Shulammite embracing once again.

Verses 6-11 open with the Shulammite being escorted to the royal city to wed Solomon. She is accompanied by a great procession of soldiers. The scene is one of protection and honor due such an important person. Solomon has not only shown the people his affection for her but also his view of her high estate among women. This seems to be an underlying theme of the book. Though the Shulammite is a lowly country girl the King of all Israel has made her feel like a queen among the most royal of people.

The husband would do well to treat his wife with such dignity, respect, honor, and affection in the public eye that the wife may feel that she is in her rightful place along his side.

Solomon 3:1 "By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not."

This speaks of the church wanting the Lord Jesus to come back, but something seems to be delaying Him. Sometimes, Christians feel this separation, when they long to be out of this world and be with Jesus in heaven. They long for that close relationship they will enjoy with the Lord. Paul spoke a little of this, when he wanted to die and be with the Lord. Philippians 1:21 "For to me to live [is] Christ, and to die [is] gain." This world is not the home of the Christian. The desire of the Christian is to be with Jesus. The Lord leaves us here for the purpose of winning the lost to Him.

Song of Solomon 3:2 "I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not."

Jesus will not be found in the broad ways. The path that leads to righteousness is a straight and narrow path. Christianity is not a one time experience; it is a daily walk through life to Jesus. It is like a marriage. Marriage and Christianity are eternal commitments.

Song of Solomon 3:3 "The watchmen that go about the city found me: [to whom I said], Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?"

The watchmen are those who are to watch and warn. I believe this is speaking of spiritual leaders, who are to warn the people of the coming of the Lord. The Christian, in this instance, is asking the watchmen to help them find the time of the coming of the Lord.

Song of Solomon 3:4 "[It was] but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me."

This is odd, but it speaks of the individual finding Christ for himself. The watchmen knew not when the Lord cometh. This speaks of the individual Christian who finds Christ, and hangs on with everything within him. He will not let go. The groom may have delayed His coming, but He was always near. This speaks of the "omnipresence" of God. He is near, and yet, He is in heaven at the right hand of the Father. The fact of the mother's chambers, here, is speaking of this being a holy union, which is not outside the teachings of the mother. This is not a clandestine relationship, but one sanctioned by the teachings of God.

Song of Solomon 3:5 "I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake [my] love, till he please."

This is the same statement as chapter 2 verse 7 in the last lesson. We took note that the "daughters of Jerusalem" were speaking of the physical house of Israel.

Song of Solomon 3:6 "Who [is] this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant?"

God led the children of Israel through the wilderness with a pillar of smoke by day and a fire by night. The bridegroom is perfumed with myrrh and frankincense. "Frankincense" accompanies the meat sacrifice.

Jesus was the perfect Lamb sacrifice. He was anointed for the sacrifice by the woman with the box of ointment. Mark 14:3 "And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured [it] on his head."

Song of Solomon 3:7 "Behold his bed, which [is] Solomon's; threescore valiant men [are] about it, of the valiant of Israel."

This symbolizes the Lord coming after His bride. This is very similar to the 45th Psalm. Psalms 45:10 "Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;" This is speaking of carrying her home to be with Him. Threescore is 60. This 60 is speaking of the bodyguards which bring her to the groom. The church is ministered to by the angels of God. Hebrews 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Song of Solomon 3:8 "They all hold swords, [being] expert in war: every man [hath] his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night."

The bride of Christ {church} may go through dangerous places, but the Lord protects Her. The "sword", sometimes, symbolically means the Word of God. The Psalms 46:1 "God [is] our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 62:7 "In God [is] my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, [and] my refuge, [is] in God."

Song of Solomon 3:9 "King Solomon made himself a chariot of the wood of Lebanon."

"Wood", as we discussed earlier, speaks of worldliness. This speaks of the chariot being of the world.

Song of Solomon 3:10 "He made the pillars thereof [of] silver, the bottom thereof [of] gold, the covering of it [of] purple, the midst thereof being paved [with] love, for the daughters of Jerusalem."

"Silver" speaks of redemption. "Gold" speaks of God. "Purple" speaks of royalty. This is speaking of the bride coming from the earth, or the worldly. She is redeemed {silver} by the blood of Jesus. God {gold} is the foundation. The path is paved by the love of God. Jesus is the way that was opened to Physical Israel first, and then made open to the Gentiles who became spiritual Israel through belief. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Song of Solomon 3:11 "Go forth, O ye daughters of Zion, and behold king Solomon with the crown wherewith his mother crowned him in the day of his espousals, and in the day of the gladness of his heart."

"Zion" symbolizes the church. This is speaking of the bride of Christ. The crown of the Lord is because He is King. Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."